

**Docket No.: 0010-1054-0**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Masaru ISHIIHARA et al.

GROUP ART UNIT: 1623

SERIAL NO.: 09/436,756

FILED: November 9, 1999

EXAMINER: L. Maier

RCE FILED: September 16, 2002

FOR: MODIFIED BACTERIAL CELLULOSE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

**SIR:**

In conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination and prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

**Please cancel Claim 1.**

Please add the following claim.

--3. A bacterial cellulose comprising ribbon-shaped microfibrils having a Young's modulus of about 13 to 20 GPa.--

## REMARKS

Claim 3 is pending in this application. Claim 3 is supported by the specification at page 1, lines 5-7 and page 6, line 13.